CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE LAMBERT TOWN 115kV PROJECT, GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 434

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE LAMBERT TOWN 115kV PROJECT, GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Prepared By:
Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA
and
Nicole Southerland

Prepared For:
Mr. Tommy L. Jackson
Central Electric Power Cooperative
P.O. Box 1455
Columbia, SC 29202

CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 434

Chicora Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 8664
Columbia, SC 29202-8664
803/787-6910
Email:chicora@earthlink.net
www.chicora.org

November 2, 2005

This report is printed on permanent paper ∞

©2005 by Chicora Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted, or transcribed in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without prior permission of Chicora Foundation, Inc. except for brief quotations used in reviews. Full credit must be given to the authors, publisher, and project sponsor.

ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive cultural resources survey of an approximately 550 foot corridor and substation lot in Georgetown County, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative in complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The corridor and lot is to be used by Central Electric Power Cooperative for the construction of a transmission line and substation. The transmission line will connect an existing transmission line to the new substation. The topography is low and flat with wetlands consuming most of the property.

The proposed route will require the clearing of the corridor, followed by construction of the proposed transmission line. The substation lot had been cleared prior to the survey. These activities have the potential to affect archaeological and historical sites that may be in the project corridor or lot. For this study an area of potential effect (APE) 0.5 mile around the proposed transmission project was assumed.

An investigation of the archaeological site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology failed to identify any previously recorded sites in the project APE.

The S.C. Department of Archives and History GIS was consulted for any previously recorded sites. Although currently in progress, the comprehensive architectural survey of Georgetown County has not been completed.

The archaeological survey of the corridor incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals along the center line of the 75-foot right-of-way, which was marked by stakes. Testing of the lot included 100 foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh with a total of six shovel tests excavated along the corridor and five shovel tests in the substation lot.

As a result of these investigations no sites were identified. This is likely the result of very poorly drained soils and the close proximity to swampland.

A survey of public roads within a 0.5 mile of the proposed undertaking was conducted in an effort to identify any architectural sites over 50 years old which also retained their integrity. No such sites were found.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the project area during clearing activities. Crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

INTRODUCTION

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Tommy L. Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative in Columbia, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of a lot measuring about 1 acre for use as a substation and a 0.1 mile transmission corridor, situated in western Georgetown County near the settlement of Lambert (Figure 1). The substation lot will connect to an existing transmission corridor to the southeast through the proposed transmission route.

The lot consists of level land and was cleared prior to the survey. The corridor is also flat and is also forested in pines and hardwoods, which quickly become swampland.

The lot, as previously mentioned, is intended to be used as a substation for a 115kV station with a proposed transmission route connecting it to an existing power line. Landscape alteration, primarily clearing, subsequent erection of the poles and other facilities, erecting lines, and long-term maintenance of the substation will cause damage to the ground surface and any archaeological resources that may be present in the survey area.

Construction, operation, and maintenance of the substation may also have an impact on historic resources in the project area. Although the project will not remove any structures, substations (as well as other above grade projects) may detract from the visual integrity of historic properties, creating what many consider discordant surroundings. As a result, this architectural survey uses an area of potential effect (APE) about 0.5 mile in diameter around the proposed facility. No structures are within view of the proposed facility, so visible intrusion will be minimal.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded development of this portion of Georgetown County.

We were requested by Mr. Tommy L. Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative to perform a cultural resources survey on October 31, 2005. This included examination of the site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. As a result of that work no previously identified sites were found.

Initial background investigations also incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. As a result of that work no sites were identified in the 0.5 mile APE. While underway, the comprehensive survey has not yet been completed for Georgetown County. A cartographic survey, however, has been performed to identify areas with a high probability for archaeological or architectural remains (Hacker and Trinkley 1993).

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files.

The archaeological survey was conducted on November 1, 2005 by Ms. Nicole Southerland and Ms. Julie Poppel under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley.

This report details the investigation of the project area undertaken by Chicora Foundation and the results of that investigation.

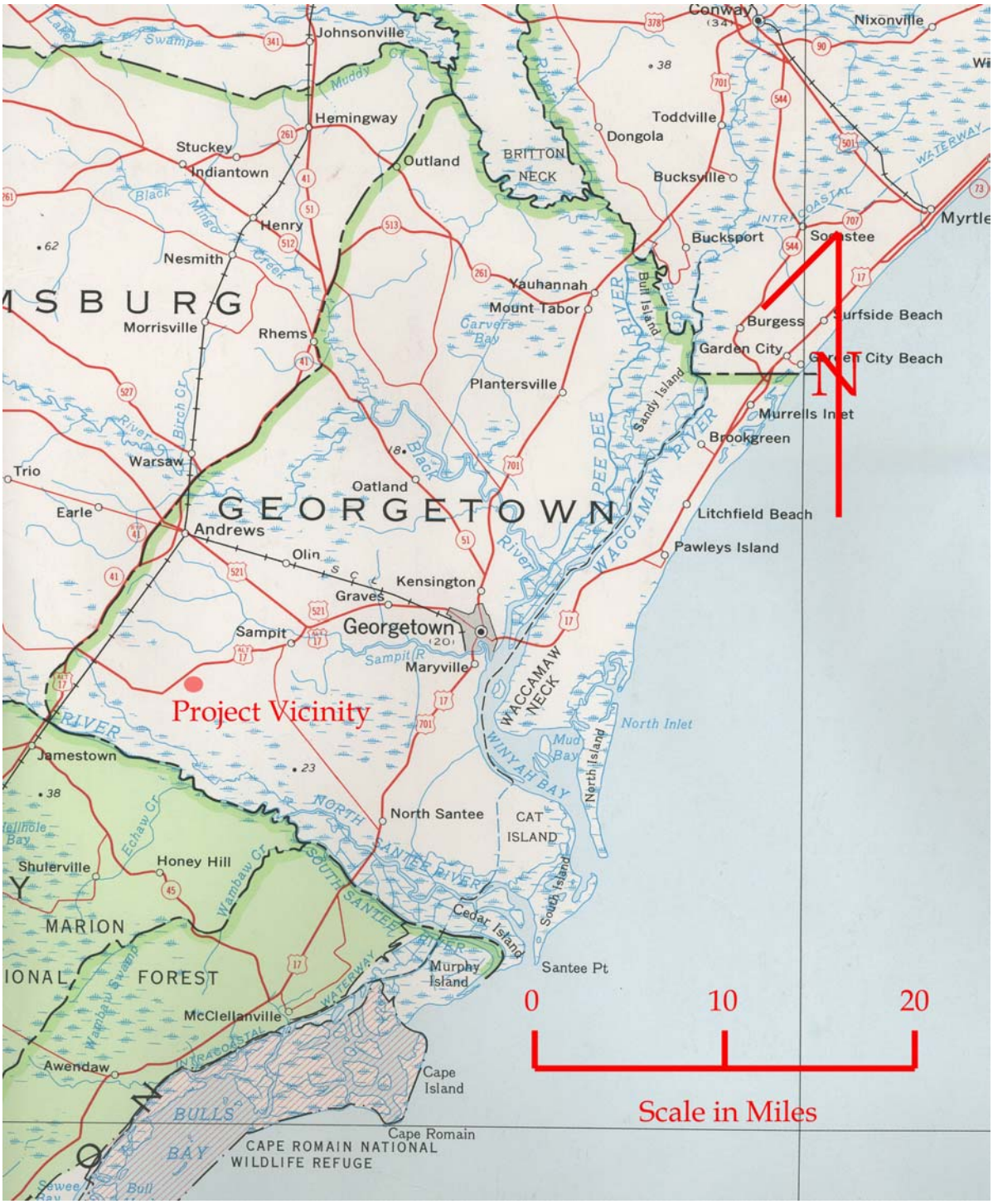


Figure 1. Project vicinity in Georgetown County (basemap is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

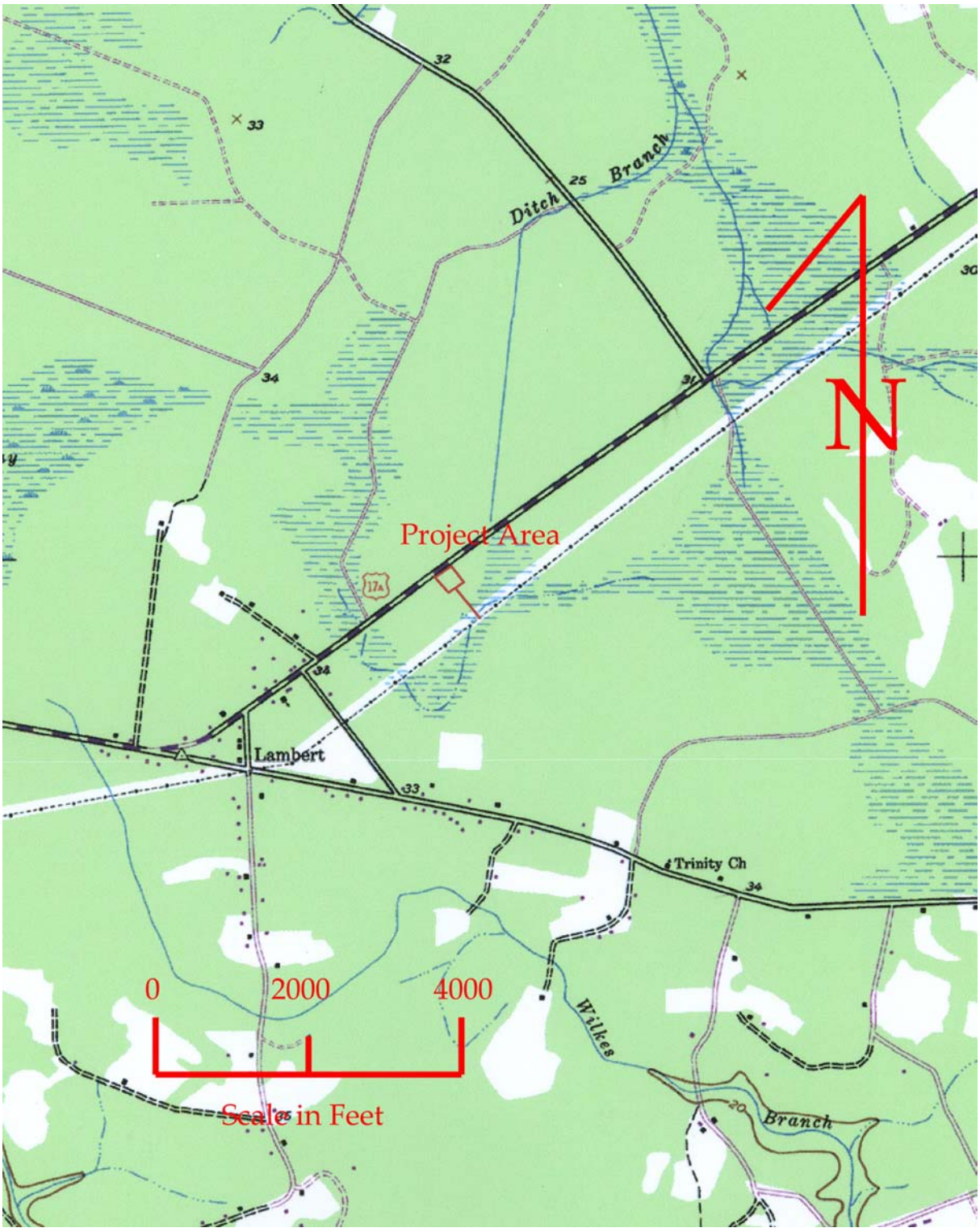


Figure 2. Project area (basemap is USGS Cedar Creek 7.5').

ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

Physiography

The project is situated in western Georgetown County. Georgetown County is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean. To the northwest is Horry County and Marion County, while to the south are Berkeley and Charleston counties.

Georgetown County is situated in the northern lower coastal plain of South Carolina. The mainland topography consists of subtle undulations in the landscape characteristic of ridge and bay topography of beach ridge plains. Elevations in the county range from sea level to about 75 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) (Mathews et al. 1980:132).

The County is drained by five significant river systems, four of which (the Waccamaw, Black, Pee Dee, and Santee Rivers) have significant freshwater discharge and only one of which (the Sampit River) is dominated by tidal action. Because of the low topography, however, many broad, low gradient interior drains are present as either extensions of tidal streams and rivers of flooded bays and swales. There are many diverse wetland communities influenced by either the freshwater drainage or tidal flows. Upland vegetation in the County is primarily pine or mixed hardwood and pine. As of 25 years ago, large areas of Georgetown County were forest, with only 6.7% of the acreage being cultivated and 4.2% being urbanized (Mathews et al. 1980:132). The project area is, in this sense, typical – being planted in mixed pines and hardwoods with a low swale area.

Geology and Soils

The geology is characteristic of the Coastal Plain. The parent materials of the soils are marine or fluvial deposits that consist of varying amounts of sands, silts, and clays. There is one primary geologic formation in the project area, deposited at different periods during alternating transgression and recession of the ocean: the Talbot Terrace. The Talbot terrace consisted of islands in the Pamlico sea (Cooke 1936:6).

The project area is situated in only one soil series, Cape Fear loam (Stuckey 1982). This very poorly drained soil has an A horizon of black (10YR2/1) loam to a depth of 1.5 feet. Underneath is a dark gray (10YR4/1) clay that occurs to a depth of about 4 feet.

Figure 3. View of typical vegetation along the corridor.


Figure 4. View of cleared substation lot.

Mills (1972 [1826]) comments that the swampland soils are composed of the "richest soil." He notes for the nearby Marion District that "while the swamp lands reclaimed and secured from freshets, will bring 50 dollars an acre; and the oak and hickory lands 15 dollars an acre; the pine lands will scarcely sell for 1 dollar per acre" (Mills 1972[1826]:623). The flatlands "are, by comparison, sand barrens; yet occasionally presenting some good timber land" (Mills 1972 [1826]: 513). And while the uplands were healthy, with summers free of disease, he observed that, "on the rivers, creeks, and flat lands, this district is subject to bilious fevers, and cannot be called healthy" (Mills 1972[1826]:515). The products cultivated during that time were "cotton, corn, wheat, pease, and potatoes" (Mills 1972[1826]:623).

Climate

The general climate of the area is characterized by mild humid conditions. This climate is influenced by the warm Gulf Stream, as well as by the Appalachian Mountains that block the coldest air masses. Other factors include latitude, elevation, distance from the ocean, and location with respect to the average tracts of migratory cyclones. Day to day weather is controlled primarily by the movement of pressure systems across the nation. However, during the summer months there are few complete exchanges of air masses because tropical maritime air persists for extended periods (Ward 1989).

The average annual precipitation in the area ranges from 49.6 inches and is unevenly distributed throughout the year, with 31.6 inches occurring from April through October, which is the primary growing season (Ward 1989:112).

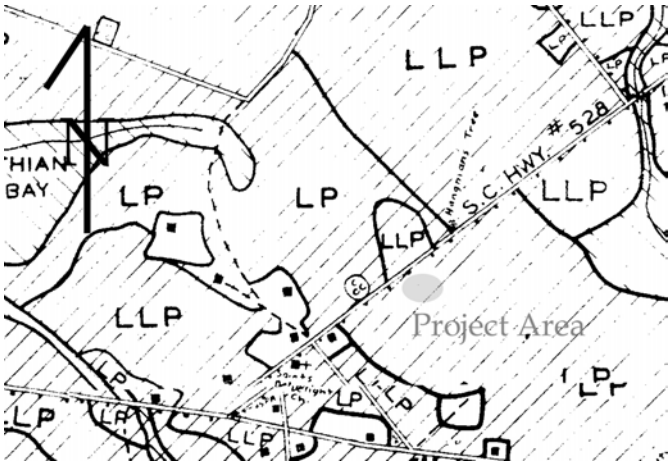
Georgetown County has a winter temperature at 49°F and a summer temperature at 88°F. Frozen precipitation occurs only one to three times a year during the winter season. The abundant supply of warm, moist and relatively unstable air produces frequent scattered showers and thunderstorms in the summer. Severe weather usually means violent thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. The tropical storm season is in late summer and early fall, although storms may occur as early as May or as late as October (Baldwin 1973). Heavy rains and high winds occur with tropical storms about once every six years. Storms of hurricane intensity are much more infrequent. Notable droughts have occurred twice in modern times – in 1925 and 1954. Typically a serious drought may occur once every fifty years. Less severe dry periods have occurred more often, normally in late spring or in autumn (Pitts 1974:109).

Floristics

There are two major categories of plant communities, based primarily on topographic location, which exist in or around the project area. The first category consists of upland vegetation. Supported here are a mixture of coniferous and deciduous forests dominated by pines and broadleaf taxa such as upland oaks, sweetgum,

hickories, and various understory species. Incorporated may be small upland depressions and drainages, which contain more hydric species.

Portions of the upland area were found to contain pine forest, typically found on soils of low fertility, high acidity, and excessive drainage. Most often these areas have been subjected to extensive disturbance, including repeated logging operations, and the pine represent an early stage of revegetation. Common on the property are mixed forest, containing both pines and hardwoods. Low, swampland is also found on the property.


LLP
LP
LLP
LP
LLP
LLP
LLP
LP
LP
LP
LP
LP
LP
LP
LLP
LLP
LLP
LP
LP
LP
LP
LLP
LLP
LL

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Previous Research

In Georgetown County, less than half of the surveys listed in Derting et al. (1991) are compliance reports. None of these compliance reports appear to be near the current survey area. The remaining reports include mostly plantation research, which involve work done closer to the coast.

Prehistoric Overview

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1965). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited mammal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, exemplified by corner-notched and broad-stem projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

In the Coastal Plain of the South Carolina there is an increase in the quantity of Early Archaic remains, probably associated with an increase in population and associated increase in the intensity of occupation. While Hardaway and Dalton points are typically found as isolated specimens along riverine environments, remains from the following Palmer phase are not only more common, but are also found in both riverine and interriverine settings. Kirks are likewise common in the coastal plain (Goodyear et al. 1979).

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanly and Halifax complexes identified by Coe are rarely encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare.

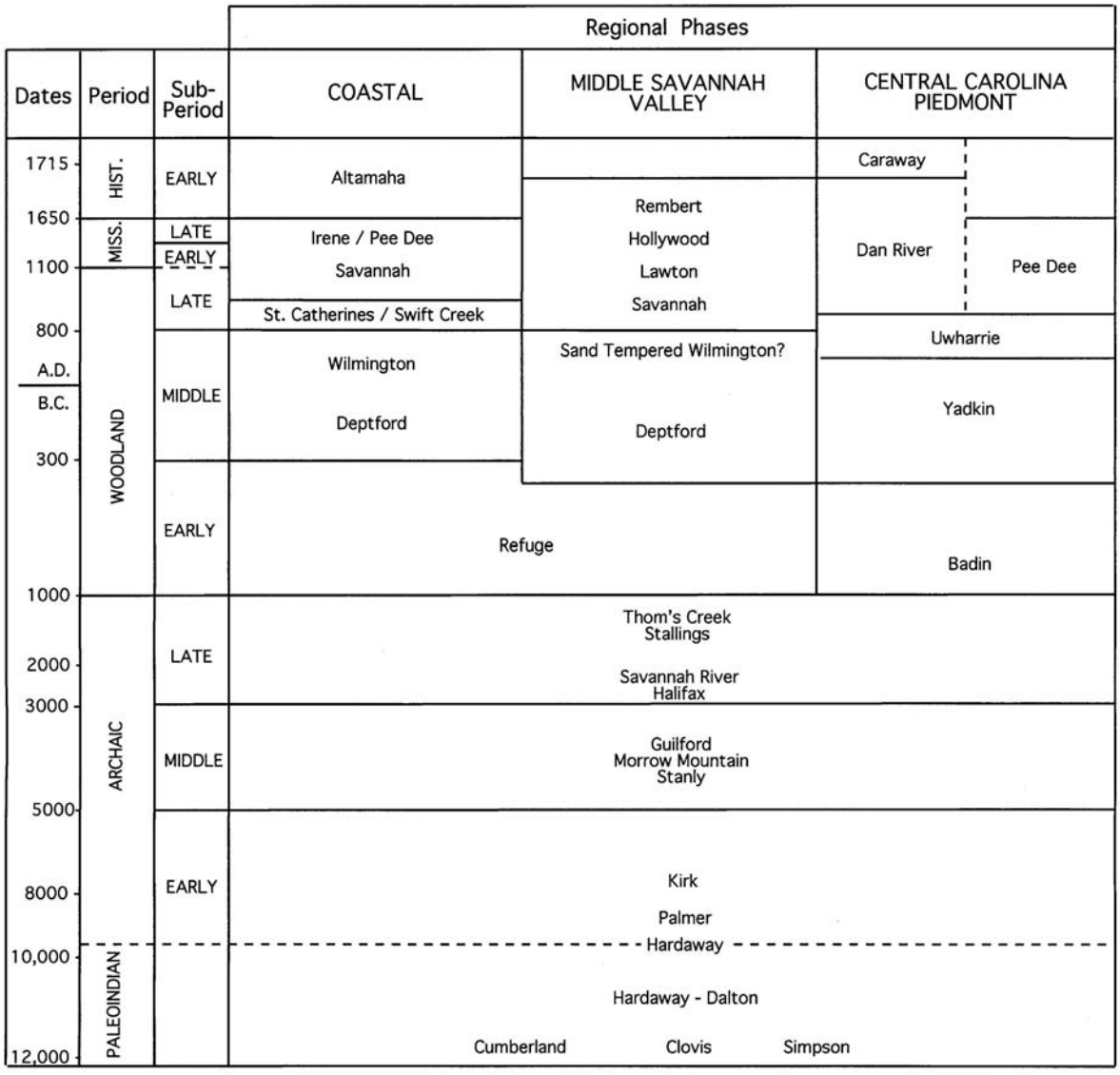


Figure 6. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our data for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

The Woodland period begins by definition with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of

terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery (see Figure 6 for a synopsis of Woodland phases and pottery designations). The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens, small, sparse shell middens; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland, sites such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson 1979; Ryan 1972; Trinkley 1980b). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however, are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge, and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing. Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1976). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time some groups continued making only the older carved paddle-stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone

assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumations and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, researchers are finding evidence of a Middle Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) have excavated a small Yadkin site (38SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Research at 38FL249 on the Roche Carolina tract in northern Florence County revealed an assemblage including Badin, Yadkin, and Wilmington wares (Trinkley et al. 1993:85-102). Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional typological assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

Over the years the suggestion that Cape Fear might be replaced by such types as Deep Creek and Mount Pleasant has raised considerable controversy. Taylor, for example, rejects the use of the North Carolina types in favor of those developed by Anderson et al. (1982) from their work at Mattassee Lake in Berkeley County (Taylor 1984:80). Cable (1991) is even less generous in his denouncement of ceramic constructs developed nearly a decade ago, also favoring adoption of the Mattassee Lake typology and chronology. This construct, recognizing five phases (Deptford I - III, McClellanville, and Santee I), uses a type variety system.

Regardless of terminology, these Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

The South Appalachian Mississippian Period (ca. A.D. 1100 to 1640) is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest phases include the Savannah and Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

Historic Overview

The first white settlers were drawn to the Waccamaw Neck area around Winyah Bay by the lure of lure of lucrative Indian trade. The English, Scots, and French acquired land through

proprietary and royal land grants, beginning as early as 1705. However, the majority of lands were granted in the 1730s (Rogers 1970:12, 20, 26). Access to water was an important factor in land development. The earliest policy was to grant narrow river frontage in order to give more settlers river access. Among the first grantees was Percival Pawley, who, through a series of land grants, obtained 24,000 acres on the Pee Dee, Sampit, and Waccamaw rivers in 1711 (Rogers 1970:16-21).

Indigo was one of the area's first major crops, but had a relatively short life of less than 50 years. Production, which began in the 1740s and reached its peak from 1754-1760, was artificially stimulated by an English bounty and King George's War (1739-1749), which cut of England's supplies in the French and Spanish West Indies. The crop grew particularly well along the Pee Dee, Black, and lower Waccamaw rivers. The processing of indigo required settling through a series of vats that drew flies and mosquitoes rendering it a fairly offensive labor (Kovacik and Winberry 1987:75). One 1755 account mentions:

> indigo has a very disagreeable smell, while making and curing; and the feces, when taken out of the steeper, if not immediately buried in the ground (for which it is excellent manure), breeds incredible swarms of flies (Carman 1939:281-290).

Indigo required a fairly major initial investment, estimated at slightly over £2,024 (Gray 1933:I:541). A major benefit, however, was that its production could be integrated with rice on the same plantation. James Governor Glen remarked:

> I cannot leave this Subject without observing how conveniently and profitably, as to the Charge of Labor, both Indigo and Rice may be managed by the same Persons; for the labor attending Indigo being over in the Summer Months those who were employed in its may afterwards manufacture Rice in the ensuing Part of the Year, when it becomes most laborious; and after doing all this, they may have some time to spare for sawing Lumber and making Hogshead and other Staves to supply the Sugar Colonies (quoted in Carman 1939:289).

Unfortunately, indigo was "one of those rank weeds like tobacco, which not only exhaust the substance of the earth, but require the very best and richest lands" (Carman 1939:281-290).

In 1753, the Winyah Indigo Society in Georgetown County was officially organized and named Thomas Lynch, Sr. their first president. This group established a free school, a library, and functioned as a business and social club for members. By the end of the eighteenth century, planters along the Waccamaw, east of the survey area, as elsewhere, had abandoned indigo due to a market surplus and a devastation of caterpillars (Winberry 1979:92, 98; Lawson 1972:3-4; see also Huneycutt 1949).

The early economy in Georgetown also depended on navel stores, and to a lesser extent, on salt processing. In 1733, exports from the port of Georgetown included 7,361 barrels of pitch, 1,092 barrels of tar, and 1,926 barrels of turpentine (Bridwell 1982:12; Rogers 1970:46-47). In the mid-1700s shipbuilding was an important Georgetown industry. Bridwell notes that there is evidence of shipbuilding as early as 1738 and that by the late 1740s an active industry flourished in the Winyah Bay area (Bridwell 1982:14). By the mid-1750s this industry began to decline as other enterprises developed and the supply of shipwrights declined (Bridwell 1982:16).

Another crop was to have a more enduring and extensive effect on the economic and cultural life of the Waccamaw River in Georgetown County. Tidal rice culture began

here in the 1730s and became the lifeblood of the Waccamaw until the slave system upon which it depended was ended by the Civil War.

George C. Rogers, in his study, *The History of Georgetown County*, attributes the rise of rice production in the area to four factors: rice cultivation had already been successfully developed in the province, a stable slave labor supply existed, land titles were stable and allowed for the accumulation of large tracts of property, and there were men who were ready to exploit this potential.

Georgetown District was the nation's major rice-growing area. In 1826, Robert Mills observed that in Georgetown:

> Everything is fed on rice, horses and cattle eat the straw and hogs, fowls, etc. are sustained by the refuse, and man subsists upon the marrow of the grain . . . . The most valuable lands in the district are those called the tide lands . . . . The yield of these lands is immense . . . they average three barrels or 2000 pounds to the acre (Mills 1972 [1826]:558).

While rice was a major crop in Georgetown County, it does not appear to have been as prevalent in the western portion of the county. Figure 7 shows the 1826 Mills' *Atlas* with very few settlements in the area and nothing near the current project area.

The early history of rice is discussed by Clowse (1971:125-132) and Doar (1936). Although the records of rice exportation are vague, they do indicate that production increased dramatically after 1705 (see Clowse 1971:167-168 for additional discussion). In the late Colonial period, rice profitability also increased. Perkins observes that:

> yields were from 2 to 4 barrels per acre, and most plantations had 2 or 3 acres under cultivation for each field hand. Based on an average price of £2.3 (%150) per barrel from 1768 to 1772, slaves generated revenues annually of from £9.2 up to £27.6 ($600-$1,800), with around £15 ($975) probably the average figure (Perkins 1980:58).

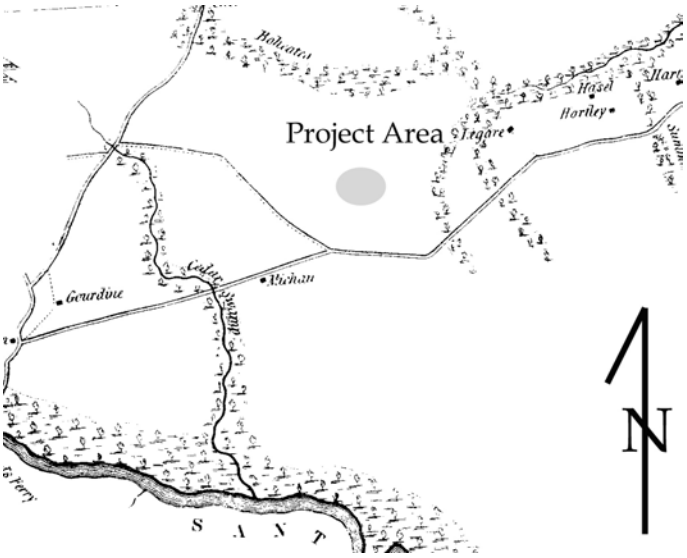


Figure 7. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project area.

Although most of the rice production figures are developed from shipping out of Charleston, Bridwell mentions that 322 barrels of rice were shipped out of Georgetown itself in 1733 (Bridwell 1982:12). In 1731, the closest year for comparison, 48,238 barrels of rice were shipped from Charleston (Clowse 1971:Table III). The low figure for the Georgetown port is probably the result of rice being shipped from Georgetown to Charleston by small coasting vessels, with the information not included in the official shipping totals.

In 1840, Georgetown District produced 45% of the national rice crop. Between 1850 and 1860, production peaked. In 1850, 46,765,040 pounds of rice were produced in Georgetown County. By 1860, South Carolina produced nearly

64% of the total United States rice crop and one-half of the state's crop was grown in Georgetown District. The average yield on Georgetown plantations in 1860 was 1,568 lbs. per acre. Prices ranged from 2.0 to 4.3 cents per pound in the 1850s (Easterby 1945:36; Kovacik 1979:49).

Profits on rice plantations during the nineteenth century were variable. Governor Robert Francis Withers Allston reported in 1854 that "the profits of a rice plantation of good size and locality are about 8 percent per annum, independent of the privileges and perquisites of the plantation residence" (Easterby 1945:37). Peter Coclanis (1989:134-141) argues that while the annual net rate of return on rice cultivation was around 25 percent in the 1760, it fell to an astounding –28 percent by 1859. Regardless, the plantation system was run almost entirely on credit, paying off each past year's indebtedness with the sale of the new crop. Although the Georgetown rice economy was in a healthy expanding condition in the antebellum years, the planter's capital was constantly being invested in land and slaves (Sellers 1934:55-56). R.F.W. Allston was one of the district's leading slave owners with nine plantations totaling over 6,000 acres. However, in 1859, he replied to the Blue Ridge Railroad Commission that he was unable to invest in the railroad:

> I have no funds to invest. All that I am worth lies in South Carolina and is invested in land and Negroes; the annual income from which is pledged before it is realized (Easterby 1941:162).

Large plantations were the rule. The demand for the limited prime coastal lands forced up land values and pushed out marginal planters. By the early 1800s a hierarchy had developed based upon distance from the sea. By 1850, 99 large planters (planters who harvested more than 100,000 pounds each) produced 98% of the District's total rice crop (Rogers 1970:253; Lawson 1972:8).

Because of this reliance on slave labor, Georgetown District had the highest percentage of slaves in South Carolina. From 1810 to 1850, slaves made up 88% of the District's total population and accounted for 85% of the population in 1860 (Rogers 1970:328,343).

The planters of Waccamaw Neck were a small aristocratic group, closely knit by ties of blood as well as common interest. They were rich, even by standards of most of South Carolina's planters, and lived in a luxurious style. In 1839, planters along the Waccamaw, the Pee Dee, the Black, the Sampit, and Winyah Bay formed the Planters Club on the Pee Dee. In 1845, the men formed another organization, the Hot and Hot Fish Club, for "convivial and social intercourse" (Rogers 1970:228, 196).

The Civil War devastated Georgetown's economy. One popular journal stated, "no other part of the United States knows so well as the Rice Coast what defeat in war can mean, for nowhere else in this country has a full-blown and highly developed civilization perished so completely" (Saas 1941:108).

Minimal documentation is available concerning the activities of the Waccamaw plantation freedmen following the war. There were some cases of looting and pillaging of the plantation homes, the "buckra houses." At first, some freedmen stayed on the confiscated plantations and worked under supervision of the Freedmen's Bureau. After restoration of the plantations, they signed work agreements with their former masters or other plantation owners whereby they were paid a set fee at the end of the planting season. Others turned from the rice fields to the burgeoning Georgetown timber industry for work. The majority of former slaves, it appears, remained on Waccamaw Neck. Here they could find ready food in the river and sea, and were among old friends and family. Too, the geographic isolation of the Neck may have reduced the travel incentive. Elsewhere small villages of freedmen apparently were formed, with the Moyd settlement on Pennyroyal Road

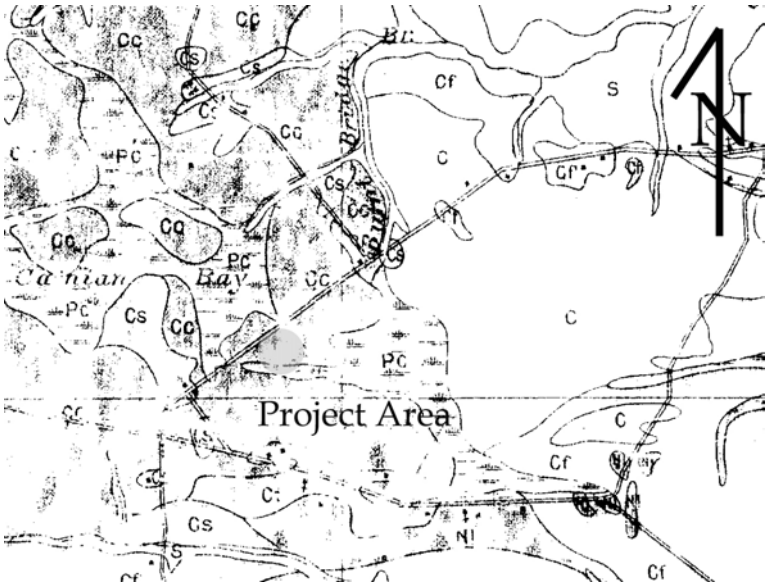


Figure 8. Portion of the 1911 Soil map showing the project area.

perhaps one example. Travel to Charleston, difficult and somewhat dangerous, required a boat and/or several ferry crossings (Lawson 1972:23; Genevieve Chandler Peterkin, personal communication, 1987; R.F.W. Allston Family Papers, South Caroliniana Library; see also the Freedmen's Bureau Reports for Georgetown County, South Carolina Department of Archives and History).

The blockade and occupation of Georgetown in 1862 threatened the plantation system. Union troops seized rice and contraband and set fire to rice fields as they went up the Waccamaw. Some planters continued trying to grow crops, but an estimated 75% of the county's plantation families moved to the interior of the state. The war was followed by successive crop failures in 1865, 1866, and 1867. Between 1860 and 1870, South Carolina's rice production fell nearly 73%. In Georgetown County, the 1879 crop was approximately 10% of the 1860 crop (Kovacik 1979:55). Financing next year's crop became a critical concern for planters who had traditionally depended on their factors for this service.

During this period, a number of things happened to land ownership: bankruptcies were common, the Freedmen's Bureau confiscated some lands and resettled former slaves on them, and other lands were sold at auction for nonpayment of loans or taxes. Companies such as Lachicotte and Sons and the Guendalos Company tried to profitably combine planting and rice milling to reduce operational costs. Efforts such as these managed to keep the rice industry alive until the turn of the century.

By the late nineteenth century, Northern investors were buying up the old rice plantations of Georgetown. Having little, if any, interest in rice cultivation, many of these buyers used the plantations as game preserves for sport hunting. The loss of a stable and experienced work force, the competition from western rice lands, and finally the hurricanes of 1893, 1894, 1898, 1906, 1910, and 1911 that wrecked the dike system, ended the long history of rice production on the Georgetown rivers (Devereaux 1976:254-155:

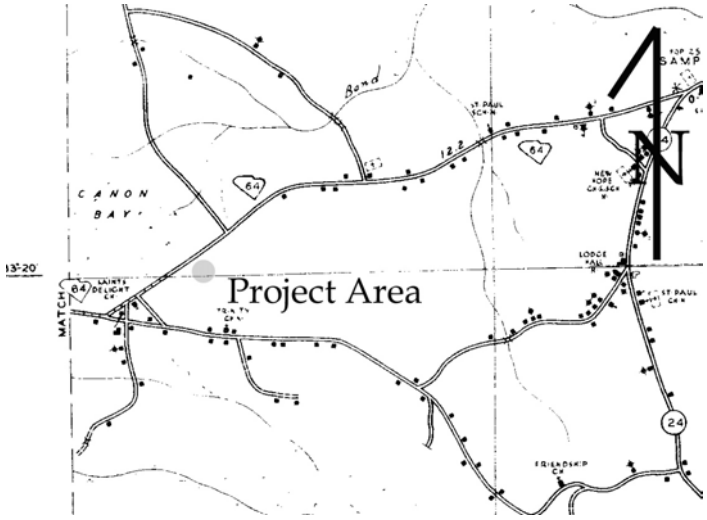


Figure 9. Portion of the 1939 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Georgetown County* showing the project area.

Lawson 1972:22-23, 409: Smith 1913:80). Elizabeth Allston Pringle of Chicora Wood wrote in 1906:

> I fear the storm drops a dramatic, I may say tragic, curtain on my career as a rice planter. The rice plantation, which for years gave me the exhilaration of making a good income myself, is a thing of the past now – the banks and trunks have been washed away, and there is no money to replace them (Rogers 1970:488-489).

The 1911 soil map of Georgetown County (Figure 8) shows no structures in the project area. In fact, the project is shows to be very close to two bays in the area.

Similarly, the 1939 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Georgetown County* (Figure 9) also shows a bay (Canon Bay) near the project area. Also, no structures are shown in the vicinity.

Unlike the eastern portion of Georgetown County, which had the majority of plantations, and is now being quickly developed in residential and commercial developments, the western portion of the county remains rural.

Additional Resources

According to the 1939 Timber Map (see Figure 5), there are a few sites that should be mentioned. These sites were noted in the *Cartographic Survey of Historic Sites in Georgetown County* (Hacker and Trinkley 1993), however it is not known if they will be included in the on-going architectural survey of the County.

The survey area is in the immediate vicinity of at least two sites – "Hangman's Tree" and a CCC camp. Both of these sites would need additional research before any assessment could be made about eligibility for the National Register. The "Hangman's Tree" could have an association with KKK activity or a lynching, but again, historic research is needed. The CCC camp might be identifiable through an archaeological survey, however it is off the current property and due to the dense woods surrounded the project area, no remains of the camp were seen. Both of these sites are across the street from the current undertaking and will not be affected by construction activities.

Another resource shown on the 1939 map is the Saints Delight Church. This church is outside the 0.5 mile APE for the project, so an intense evaluation was not performed. Additional research would be necessary to correctly evaluate the structure. Again, this church will not be affected by current construction activities.

RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

Archaeological Field Methods and Findings

The initially proposed field techniques for the substation lot involved the placement of shovel tests at 100-foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals along US 17 Alternate. The transmission corridor incorporated shovel testing along the center line of the corridor, which had a right-of-way of 75 feet.

All soil would be screened through ¼-inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1.0 foot or until subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

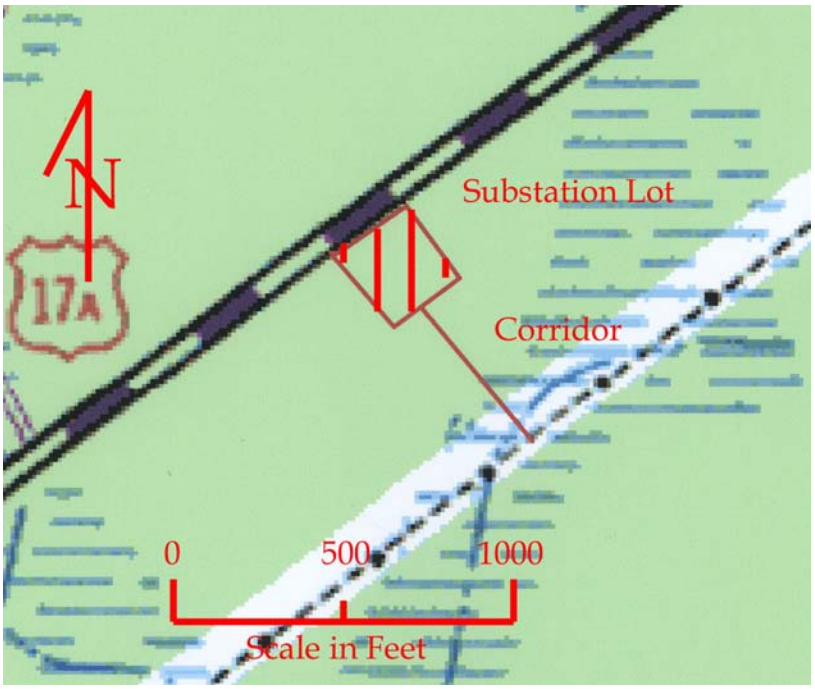


Figure 10. Substation lot with transects.

Should sites (defined by the presence of three or more artifacts from either surface survey or shovel tests within a 50 feet area) be identified, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. These tests would be placed at 25 to 50 feet intervals in a simple cruciform pattern until two consecutive negative shovel tests were encountered. The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

Transects were placed along US 17 Alternate from west to east with shovel tests running north. A total of five shovel tests were excavated within the substation lot. A total of six shovel tests were excavated along the corridor.

Sites would be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Analysis of collections would follow professionally accepted standards with a level


Figure 11. View of shovel testing in the substation lot.

of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains.

Nevertheless, the archaeological survey of the substation lot and transmission corridor failed to identify any remains. This is most likely due to the very poorly drained soils.

Architectural Survey

As previously discussed, we elected to use a 0.5 mile area of potential effect (APE). The architectural survey would record buildings, sites, structures, and objects that appeared to have been constructed before 1950. Typical of such projects, this survey recorded only those which have retained "some measure of its historic integrity" (Vivian n.d.:5) and which were visible from public roads.

For each identified resource we would complete a Statewide Survey Site Form and at least two representative photographs were taken. Permanent control numbers would be assigned by the Survey Staff of the S.C. Department of Archives and History at the conclusion of the study. The Site Forms for the resources identified during this study would be submitted to the S.C. Department of Archives and History.

Site Evaluation and Findings

Archaeological sites will be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

> the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and
>
> a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
>
> b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
>
> c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high

artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Figure 12. View of existing transmission line.

National Register Bulletin 36 (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;

- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;

- identification of the important research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;

- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and

- identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized, but we have tried to focus on an archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

The survey failed to identify any structures that were in the APE which contain enough integrity to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

CONCLUSIONS

This study involved the examination of approximately 1 acre of land for a substation and a 0.1 mile corridor for a transmission line in western Georgetown County. This work, conducted for Mr. Tommy L. Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative examined archaeological sites and cultural resources found on the proposed project area and is intended to assist this company in complying with their historic preservation responsibilities.

As a result of this investigation, no archaeological sites were found in the survey area. This is likely the result of the very poorly drained soils found throughout the project area.

A survey of public roads within 0.5 mile revealed no structures that retain the integrity for the National Register of Historic Places.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

SOURCES CITED

Anderson, David G.
1979 *Excavations at Four Fall Line Sites: The Southeastern Beltway Project.* Commonwealth Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, Michigan. Submitted to the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Columbia.

Anderson, David G., Charles E. Cantley, and A. Lee Novick
1982 *The Mattassee Lake Sites: Archaeological Investigations Along the Lower Santee River in the Coastal Plain of South Carolina.* Commonwealth Associates, Jackson, Michigan.

Baldwin, John L
1973 *Climates of the United States.* U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, D.C.

Blanton, Dennis B., Christopher T. Espenshade, and Paul E. Brockington, Jr.
1986 *An Archaeological Study of 38SU83: A Yadkin Phase Site in the Upper Coastal Plain of South Carolina.* Garrow and Associates, Inc., Atlanta.

Bridwell, Ronald E.
1982 *"That We Should Have A Port": A History of the Port of Georgetown, South Carolina 1732-1865.* Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, Georgetown.

Cable, John
1991 *Archaeological Test Excavations on the Northeastern Perimeter of the Buck Hall Site (38CH644), Francis Marion National Forest, South Carolina.* New South Associates, Irmo, South Carolina.

Caldwell, Joseph R.
1958 *Trend and Tradition in the Prehistory of the Eastern United States.* Memoirs of the American Anthropological Association 88.

Carman, Harry J., editor
1939 *American Husbandry.* Columbia University Press, New York.

Clowse, Converse D.
1971 *Economic Beginnings in Colonial South Carolina: 1670-1730.* University of South Carolina Press, Columbia.

Coclanis, Peter A.
1989 *The Shadow of a Dream: Economic Life and Death in the South Carolina Low Country, 1670-1920.* Oxford University Press, New York.

Coe, Joffre
1964 *The Formative Cultures of the Carolina Piedmont.* Transactions of the American Philosophical Society 54(5).

Cooke, C. Wythe
1936 *Geology of the Coastal Plain of South Carolina.* Bulletin 867. U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C.

Derting, Keith M., Sharon L. Pekrul, and Charles J. Rinehart
1991 *A Comprehensive Bibliography of*

South Carolina Archaeology. Research Manuscript 211. South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Devereaux, Anthony
1976 *The Life and Times of Robert F.W. Allston.* R.L. Bryan, Columbia.

Doar, David
1936 *Rice and Rice Planting in the South Carolina Low Country.* Contributions 8. The Charleston Museum, Charleston, South Carolina.

Easterby, James H.
1941 The South Carolina Rice Factor as Revealed in the Papers of Robert F.W. Allston. *Journal of Southern History* 7:160-172.

Ferguson, Leland G.
1971 *South Appalachian Mississippian*. Ph.D. dissertation, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Goodyear, Albert C., John H. House, and Neal W. Ackerly
1979 *Laurens-Anderson: An Archaeological Study of the Inter-Riverine Piedmont*. Anthropological Studies 4, Occasional Papers of the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Gray, Lewis
1933 *History of Agriculture in the Southern United States to 1860.* Carnegie Institution Publication 430, Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Hacker, Debi and Michael Trinkley
1993 *Cartographic Survey of Historic Sites in Georgetown County, South Carolina.* Chicora Foundation Research Contribution 110. Chicora Foundation, Inc., Columbia.

Hanson, Glen T., Jr.
1982 The Analysis of Late Archaic-Early Woodland Adaptive Change Along the Middle Savannah River: A Proposed Strudy. *South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology Notebook* 14:1-38.

Huneycutt, Dwight J.
1949 *The Economics of the Indigo Industry in South Carolina.* Unpublished M.A. thesis, Department of Economics, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Kovacik, Charles F.
1979 South Carolina Rice Coast Landscape Changes. *Proceedings of the Tall Timber Ecology and Management Conferences,* pp. 47-65. Thomasville, Georgia.

Kovacik, Charles F. and John J. Winberry
1987 *South Carolina: The Making of a Landscape*. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia.

Lawson, Dennis T.
1972 "No Heir To Take Its Place." The Georgetown County Historical Commission, Georgetown, South Carolina.

Mathews, Thomas D., Frank W. Stapor, Jr., Charles R. Richter, John V. Miglarese, Michael D. McKenzie, and Lee R. Barclay
1980 *Ecological Characterization of the Sea Island Coastal Region of South*

Carolina and Georgia, vol. 1. Office of Biological Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.

Michie, James
1977 *The Late Pleistocene Human Occupation of South Carolina.* Unpublished Honor's Thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Mills, Robert
1972 [1826]*Statistics of South Carolina.* Reprinted. The Reprint Press, Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Oliver, Billy L.
1981 *The Piedmont Tradition: Refinement of the Savannah River Stemmed Point Type.* Unpublished Master's thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Perkins, Edwin J.
1980 *The Economy of Colonial America.* Columbia University Press, New York.

Phelps, David A.
1983 Archaeology of the North Carolina Coast and Coastal Plain: Problems and Hypotheses. In *The Prehistory of North Carolina: An Archaeological Symposium*, edited by Mark A. Mathis and Jeffrey J. Crow, pp. 1-52. North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh.

Pitts, J.J.
1974 *Soil Survey of Florence and Sumter Counties, South Carolina.* U.S. Department of Agrculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Rogers, George C., Jr.
1970 *The History of Georgetown County South Carolina.* University of South Carolina Press, Columbia.

Ryan, Thomas M.
1972 *Archaeological Survey of the Columbia Zoological Park, Richland and Lexington Counties, South Carolina*. Research Manuscript Series 37. South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Saas, Herbert Ravenel
1941 The Ten Rice Rivers. *Saturday Evening Post,* December 13:20-21, 105-108.

Sassaman, Kenneth E., Mark J. Brooks, Glen T. Hanson, and David G. Anderson
1990 *Native American Prehistory of the Middle Savannah River Valley.* Savannah River Archaeological Research Papers 1. Occasional Papers of the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina.

Sellers, Leila
1934 *Charleston Business on the Eve of the American Revolution.* University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.

Service, E.M.
1966 *The Hunters.* Prentice-hall, Englewood Cliffs.

Smith, Henry A.M.
1913 Baronies of South Carolina. *South*

Carolina Historical Magazine 14:61-80.

South, Stanley A.
1976 Archaeological Survey of Southeastern North Carolina. *South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology Notebook* 93.

Stoltman, James B.
1974 *Plantation: An Archaeological Study of a South Carolina Locality*. Monographs of the Peabody Museum 1, Harvard University, Cambridge.

Stuckey, Benjamin N.
1982 *Soil Survey of Georgetown County, South Carolina.* Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Taylor, Richard L., editor
1984 *Resources Survey of the Proposed Pee Dee Electric Generating Facility in Florence County, South Carolina.* Common wealth Associates, Jackson, Michigan.

Townsend, Jan, John H. Sprinkle, Jr., and John Knoerl
1993 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Historical Archaeological Sites and Districts.* Bulletin 36. National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, Washington, D.C.

Trinkley, Michael
1980a *Additional Investigations at 38LX5*. South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Columbia.

1980b *Investigation of the Woodland Period along the South Carolina Coast*. Ph.D. dissertation. Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

1990 *An Archaeological Context for the South Carolina Woodland Period*. Chicora Foundation Research Series 22. Chicora Foundation, Inc., Columbia, S.C.

Trinkley, Michael, Debi Hacker, and Natalie Adams
1993 *Life in the Pee Dee: Prehistoric and Historic Research on the Roche Carolina Tract, Florence County, South Carolina*. Research Series 39. Chicora Foundation, Inc., Columbia.

Vivian, Daniel J.
n.d. *South Carolina Statewide Survey of Historic Properties.* S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia.

Walthall, John A.
1980 *Prehistoric Indians of the Southeast: Archaeology of Alabama.* University of Alabama Press, University.

Ward, Bobby J.
1989 *Soil Survey of Williamsburg County, South Carolina.* United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Ward, Trawick
1978 *The Archaeology of Whites Creek, Marlboro County, South Carolina.* Research Laboratories of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

1983 A Review of Archaeology in the North Carolina Piedmont: A Study in Change. In *The Prehistory of North Carolina An Archaeological Symposium*. Edited

by Mark A. Mathis and Jeffrey J. Crow, pp. 53-81. North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

Williams, Stephen B., editor
1965 *The Paleo-Indian Era: Proceedings of the 20th Southeastern Archaeological Conference*. Bulletin 2. Southeastern Archaeological Conference.

Winberry, John J.
1979 Indigo in South Carolina: A Historic Geography. *Southeastern Geographer* 19.

Archaeological Investigations

Historical Research

Preservation

Education

Interpretation

Heritage Marketing

Museum Support Programs

Chicora Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 8664 ▪ 861 Arbutus Drive
Columbia, SC 29202-8664
Tel: 803-787-6910
Fax: 803-787-6910
Email: Chicora@bellsouth.net
www.chicora.org